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## Focused Outreach Event Council District 2 – Midway District

### Summary

Employ a multidisciplinary outreach team consisting of City funded outreach personnel, the County of San Diego and community partners to engage individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in identified priority areas.

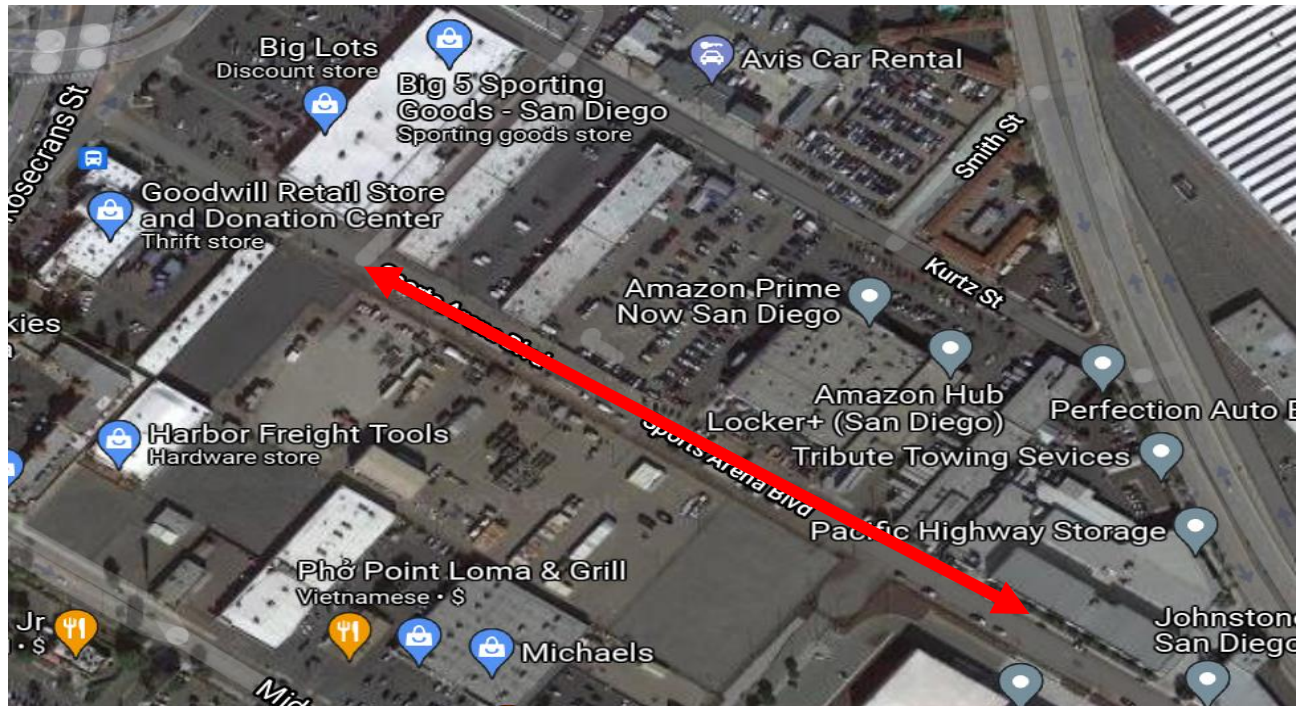
### Location

Sports Arena Blvd (Rosecrans – Pacific Coast Highway)

- 94 Tent Structures
- Estimated population of 183 individuals

### Site Description – Midway

Sport's Arena Boulevard (Rosecrans to Pacific Coast Highway) is in the Midway District; a dense unsheltered population reside on the south side of Sports Arena Blvd, broken into two distinct encampments. The closest address locator is 2801 ½ Sports Arena Boulevard, San Diego CA 92110.





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**Southwest Side**



**Southeast Side**

### **Base of Operations**

The base of operations was made available by the Gildred Companies, a commercial real estate firm that manages the properties across the street from the encampment.





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### Timeline

TASK	START DATE	END DATE
Planning Meetings	1/6/2022	1/7/2022
Focused Outreach Event	1/10/2022	1/14/2022
After Action Report	1/17/2022	1/28/2022

### Service Partners

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION	ROLE
City of SD HSSD	Policy Lead
San Diego Housing Commission	Operations Coordination
Regional Taskforce on Homelessness	Community Outreach Coordinator
People Assisting the Homeless	Outreach Specialist (Rapid Response Team)
People Assisting the Homeless	Outreach Specialist (Mobile Resolution Team)
County of San Diego – Office of Homeless Solutions	Benefits Specialist (CalFresh, General Relief, MediCal)
Family Health Center of San Diego	Community Harm Reduction Team
Downtown San Diego Partnership	Diversion Specialist Team (Family Reunification)
San Diego Rescue Mission	Transitional Living Assessments, Care Kits
Third Avenue Charitable Organization	Birth Certificates, Going Home program
Goodwill Donation Station	Access to electrical outlet usage Guard cell phone: 619-481-0696
The Gildred Companies	Base of Operations: 2775 Kurtz St parking lot



## OUTCOMES

### Client Interactions, Supportive Services and Shelter Placements

<b>Instances of Service*</b>	<b>457</b>
<b>Client Encounters**</b>	<b>157</b>
Walk Up	114
Street Outreach	43
<b>County of San Diego – Office of Homeless Solutions</b>	<b>178</b>
General Relief	34
CalFresh	62
MediCal	56
Care Coordination	26
<b>Shelter Placements</b>	<b>7</b>
Harm Reduction Interim Shelter	6
PATH Connections	1
<b>Enrolled in Street Based Case Management</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Basic Needs (i.e. food, water, clothing, hygiene kits)</b>	<b>75</b>

\*Includes client encounters, County services, shelter placements and basic needs. Street Based Case Management enrollments are included in the total Street Outreach Client Encounters.

\*\*The 'Instances of Services' and 'Encounters' numbers may include clients that engaged more than one time throughout the week, i.e. duplicates.







## Overview

Council District 2 is currently serviced by three full time personnel with one of the outreach specialists being specifically assigned to the Midway District. The assigned team maintains an active presence and regularly engages individuals residing at the encampment. Client engagements are also facilitated by the Rapid Response Team based on service requests received through Get-It-Done. Ongoing field assessments conducted by outreach specialists indicated that the encampment was comprised of roughly 183 individuals. On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the City of San Diego communicated a need to schedule a Public Health and Safety abatement in the Midway District and requested that a coordinated outreach response be facilitated prior to abatement activity.

Between January 14<sup>th</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>, a multidisciplinary team comprised of Outreach Specialists, County Benefit Specialists and the County's Community Harm Reduction Team, canvassed the target area to engage individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness and to facilitate connections to supportive services. Resources included access to ongoing case management, health education, public benefits, mental health, substance abuse and primary care referrals as well as access to hygiene kits, transportation and basic essentials. Due to the temporary suspension of intakes across most City funded shelter programs, shelter placements were limited to Harm Reduction Interim Shelter and PATH Connections Housing. In total, 25 staff from 8 separate organizations participated in the Focused Outreach event.

The encampment consisted of roughly 94 tent structures as well as 10 -15 individuals residing in oversized vehicles. Clients that did engage, openly discussed their substance use history and were happy to receive resources from support staff. Service provider staff also observed activity indicative of sexual exploitation, narcotic sales and substance abuse. Individuals expressed a general hesitancy to leave the area in favor of shelter or other longer-term programs regardless of the scheduled abatement. Clients shared the opinion that the abatement was a temporary inconvenience and that they did not feel that the activity would result in their permanent displacement from the location. Of the individuals surveyed, 80% identified the Midway District as being their primary place of residence for over one year and 50% for three years or more. In addition, 70% of these individuals have been living unsheltered for over one year, 50% of them for more than three years. On January 15<sup>th</sup>, staff was approached by multiple individuals communicating that residents of the encampment were not engaging in services because of stomach illness, including diarrhea, fever & vomiting. This information was relayed to City and County health officials for additional public health support. The encampment includes single adults, couples and family households; some of whom recently arrived in San Diego by way of New Mexico & Arizona. The assigned street based case manager will continue to engage clients in the area as well as to provide assistance to those that are receiving case management support.